

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed September 16, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8-17 remain in the Application, where claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 11 and 16 are independent.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-6 and 8-17 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form including beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--, and deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Such amendments to claims 1-6 and 8-17 were not made in order to address issues of

patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claim 7 contains patentable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, independent claims 1 and 16 have been amended to include the features of allowable claim 7 (which has been canceled without prejudice) without including certain features of intervening claim 6 as they are believed to be not necessary for patentability. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1 and 16 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully requested that claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-15 and 17 also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 16 as well as their individually patentable elements.

In the Office Action, claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0079512 (Yamazaki) in view of WO 00/75766 (Macinnes). It is respectfully submitted that claim 11 is

patentable over Yamazaki and Macinnes for at least the following reasons.

Yamazaki is directed to an information device with a pen input function. As correctly noted in the second full paragraph on page 7, Yamazaki does not disclose or suggest a "computer hardware being provided with a priority identifier for each of the features determining which of the features to omit from presentation in the user interface in a situation where at least part of the display is obscured," as recited in claim 11. (Illustrative emphasis provided) FIG 5 and the last paragraph on page 9 of Macinnes are cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Yamazaki.

It is respectfully submitted that FIG 5 and the last paragraph on page 9 of Macinnes merely disclose "an enlargement of the regions of contact, indicated by enlargement 15 in Fig 5." (Emphasis provided)

There is simply no disclosure or suggestion in Yamazaki, Macinnes, and combination thereof, of the present invention as recited in independent claim 11 which, amongst other patentable features, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

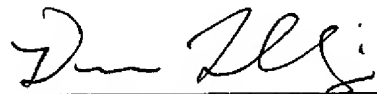
the computer hardware being provided with a priority identifier for each of the features determining which of the features to omit from presentation in the user interface in a situation where at least part of the display is obscured.

A priority identifier for each of the features determining which of the features to omit from presentation is nowhere disclosed or suggested Yamazaki and Macinnes, alone or in combination. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 11 allowable.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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